

REMARKS

Five (5) formulae in the specification are amended to correctly recite the formulae. As there is no disclosure of the definition of Y¹, it was applicants' intent that Y¹ should have been Y. It was applicants' oversight disclosing Y¹. As such, the amendment to the formulae does not represent new matter because applicants did not intend to have Y¹ by defining Y¹.

Claim 1 is amended to recite that the phosphorus compounds do not contain an aryl group or arylene group. The amendment is based on the disclosures of the specification on pages 5 (lines 20-27), 6 (lines 3-6 and 19-21), 7 (lines 1-8 and 21-22), 8 (lines 1-6 and 12-18), and 9 (lines 1-11) where all examples of compounds disclosed do not contain an aryl or arylene group. Again, it was applicants' intent to disclose non-aromatic compounds. As such, the amendment does not introduce new matter.

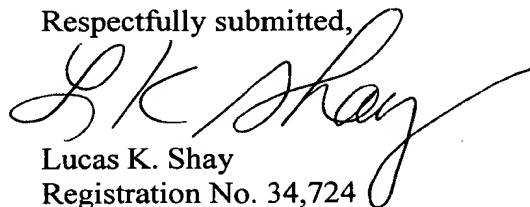
Claims 3-6, 8-9, 11-17, 20-23, 25-26, and 28-34 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The rejection is submitted to be now moot because the formulae are now included in the amended claims.

Claims 1-40 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Howell et al (US6,184,187; Howell).

The rejection is respectfully submitted to be now moot for Howell discloses only aryl- or arylene- containing phosphorus compounds. The amended claims, on the other hand, do not contain any such group or aromatic moiety. The aromatic-free phosphorus compounds are patentably distinct from an aromatic phosphorus compound.

For the foregoing reasons and discussions, applicants respectfully request that the objections and rejections be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,



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